



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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September 29, 2005

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: PD-1

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**MAGIC MOUNTAIN PARKWAY AT GOLDEN STATE FREEWAY (INTERSTATE 5)
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA-COUNTY COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Acting as a responsible agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), consider the enclosed Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Impact, including comments received during the public review process, which was prepared for the Interstate 5/Magic Mountain Parkway Interchange and Related Improvements project and adopted by the State of California Department of Transportation on July 31, 2000; find that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment and find that the Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Impact reflects the independent judgment of the County; and approve the Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Impact.
2. Approve and instruct the Chair of the Board to sign the enclosed cooperative Agreement between the County and the City of Santa Clarita for the project. The Agreement provides for the City to perform the preliminary engineering, acquire the necessary right of way, and administer the construction of the project and the County to review

and approve the plans and right-of-way acquisition documents. The total project cost is estimated to be \$15.5 million with the County's share being \$500,000. The remaining project cost will be financed with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority grant funds and City Bridge and Thoroughfare Fee District funds.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The County, the City of Santa Clarita, and the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) propose to improve the freeway interchange at Magic Mountain Parkway and Interstate 5 and realign Magic Mountain Parkway and The Old Road in the vicinity of the interchange. This project is referred to as the Interstate 5/Magic Mountain Parkway Interchange and Related Improvements project. These improvements are being constructed in three phases. The enclosed Agreement is only for work to be done by the City of Santa Clarita within County jurisdiction under Phase 2 of the overall improvement project. Phase 2 consists of realignment of The Old Road and Magic Mountain Parkway and the construction of storm drain facilities and appurtenant structures.

Your Board's approval of the enclosed Agreement is necessary for the delegation of responsibilities and the cooperative financing of the project. This proposal is authorized and provided for by the provisions of Section 6500, et seq. of the Government Code.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Agreement meets the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence. By reconfiguring the Magic Mountain Parkway at Interstate 5 interchange and realigning Magic Mountain Parkway and The Old Road, traffic flow will be enhanced for County residents and for commercial trucks delivering goods to and from the area.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total project cost is estimated to be \$15.5 million with the County's share being \$500,000. The County's share of the project cost is included in the Fiscal Year 2005-06 Valencia Bridge and Major Thoroughfare Fee District (V51) fund.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The enclosed Agreement, which has been executed by the City and approved as to form by County Counsel, provides for the City to perform the preliminary engineering, acquire the necessary right of way, and administer the construction of the project. The City will finance the costs incurred for this work, estimated to be \$15 million, with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority grant funds and Bridge and Major Thoroughfare Fee District funds collected from local developers by the City. The County is to review and approve the plans and right-of-way acquisition documents for the project and will finance the cost of these activities, estimated to be \$500,000, with Valencia Bridge and Major Thoroughfare Fee District funds collected by the County.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

On May 9, 2000, Caltrans, as the lead agency, circulated an Initial Study/Environmental Assessment for the Interstate 5/Magic Mountain Parkway Interchange and Related Improvements project in accordance with CEQA requirements. A public meeting was held on June 13, 2000, during the public review period, which ended on June 21, 2000. On the basis of this study, it was determined that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment. Consequently, Caltrans finalized and adopted the Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Effect on July 31, 2000, and filed a Notice of Determination for the project with the County Clerk in accordance with the requirements of Section 21152 of the California Public Resources Code.

On August 25, 2005, the City of Santa Clarita, acting as a "responsible agency" whose discretionary approval of the project is required to carry out the project, adopted Caltrans' Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Effect for the project.

Under the CEQA, the County is a "responsible agency" whose approval of the enclosed Agreement is required to carry out the project. As a responsible agency, your Board must consider and adopt the Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Effect, prepared by Caltrans, before the recommended Agreement is approved.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

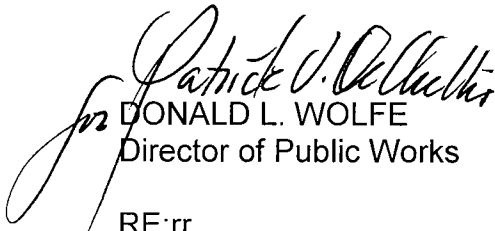
The Old Road and Magic Mountain Parkway are major arterial highways on the County's Highway Plan, and the proposed improvements are needed and of general County interest.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
September 29, 2005
Page 4

CONCLUSION

Enclosed are five copies of the Agreement, which have been executed by the City and approved as to form by County Counsel. Upon approval, please return the copies marked CITY ORIGINAL to us for processing together with one adopted copy of this letter. The copy marked COUNTY ORIGINAL is for your files.

Respectfully submitted,


DONALD L. WOLFE
Director of Public Works

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Enc.

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel